



April 13, 2005

The Honorable Bill Thomas  
United States House of Representatives  
2208 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Thomas:

I am writing to urge your support for the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA).

Bechtel is one of the world's premier engineering and construction companies having worked on more than 22,000 projects in 140 countries on all seven continents.

We support efforts that help strengthen Rule of Law, increase Transparency and Anti-corruption measures and spell out Dispute Resolution provisions. All these principles help increase business certainty and lend a hand in successful project completion.

The DR-CAFTA agreement is a comprehensive approach to trade liberalization and will improve our trading relationship with the region. The outcome of the vote on this trade agreement is a pivotal signal to our negotiating partners on other trade agreements in other regions of the world. This sends a strong signal to the countries in the World Trade Organization that America strongly supports free trade.

We urge you to approve the DR-CAFTA legislation.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Ragan  
Principal Vice President and Manager  
Bechtel Washington Office